

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP83-00423R0

COUNTRY: Indonesia

SUBJECT: Unfair Administration of Labor Laws/Corruption in  
Courts/Comments on the Atjeh Disturbance

PLACE ACQUIRED: [REDACTED]

DATE ACQUIRED: [REDACTED]

DATE OF INFO: [REDACTED]

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

18 Nov 53

This unclassified information for US officials  
Only is supplied for the possible interest of  
your analysts. It does not contain information of  
a classified nature.

1. The employees [REDACTED], numbering thousands, are nearly all Javanese. [REDACTED] a fair number of old employees, even from pre-war days, the majority have been brought in since the war.

2. There is no shortage of labor now and experienced men for all types of work except tapping are available. [REDACTED] a school for tappers where [REDACTED] about 100 enrolled in a three to four-week course.

3. The difficulty of complying with labor laws and the one-sided manner of administering them discourage [REDACTED] expanding the number of [REDACTED] employees. For the present, [REDACTED] to carry on the routine work of tapping, gathering, and milling with estate employed labor but [REDACTED] other work, such as clearing, weeding, and planting with contract labor. Contracts will be made with chiefs of kampongs, and [REDACTED] they can do such work more cheaply [REDACTED] and will receive fairer treatment in labor courts.

4. The chief difficulty [REDACTED] labor when not needed and since their pay is largely in shelter, food, and clothing benefits, it is not entirely essential they work, as money earned is spent largely for small luxuries.

5. There is much shifting of blame between the police and courts for the failure to punish natives guilty of illegal tapping and destruction. [REDACTED] the police would like to enforce the law but are helpless when natives arrested for willful destruction of estate property are released after a day or two in jail.

6. The police claim the Chinese remillers encourage illegal tapping to get the latex cheaper than they could through legitimate channels. They promise the natives to care for families of any tappers caught and buy their release by the courts.

7. The rebellious attitude of the natives of Atjeh area is not new. Even in pre-war days, under Dutch rule, the natives were never under control. In traveling the main road along the north coast, there were frequent stations where everybody was checked.

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8. The recent uprising was not unexpected. Estate owners had been warned a week in advance by loyal employees who feared for the owners' safety. But the Indonesian Government can not cope with the situation.

25X1X6

9. This is the area from which smuggling is carried on to the extent that straits dollars are the medium of exchange and rupiahs will not be accepted.

25X1X6

10. [REDACTED] the Indonesian Government [REDACTED] would probably settle for a liberal degree of autonomy for the area if it were not for the precedent which would be set.

- end -

July

65-48.3

45-48.4

65-53. X

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Circle

312

324

TYPE ACT-DATE INFO-TFR-DATE AREA

- 53 2 X

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